



**FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**

428 J Street • Suite 620 • Sacramento, CA 95814-2329  
(916) 322-5660 • Fax (916) 322-0886

July 31, 2009

Mr. John Coleman  
REDACTED

**RE: Warning Letter**  
**FPPC No. 08/0562; John Coleman**

Dear Mr. Coleman:

The Fair Political Practices Commission ("Commission") enforces the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the "Act") found in Government Code Section 81000, and following. As you may be aware, the Commission was investigating whether you were in violation of the gift limit provisions of the Act because of gift of travel that you received in 2004. The Commission has decided to close this case with this warning letter.

In September 2008, the Enforcement Division of the Commission ("Enforcement") received a referral from the Commission's Technical Assistance Division regarding travel payments reported on your 2007 Statement of Economic Interests ("SEI"). On that SEI, you reported receiving approximately \$435 in gifts from the Golden State Warriors.

Section 89503, subdivision (c), of the Act states:

"No member of a state board or commission or designated employee of a state or local government agency shall accept gifts from any single source in any calendar year with a total value of more than (\$250) if the member or employee would be required to report receipt of income or gifts from that source on his or her statement of economic interests."

The \$250 gift limit amount is adjusted biennially to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index pursuant to Section 89503, subdivision (f). For calendar year 2007, the applicable gift limit was \$390 from a single source in a calendar year. The gift that you received from the Golden State Warriors was in excess of the \$390 gift limit.

Your acceptance of a gift over the limits is a violation of the Act. (Section 89503, subdivision (c).) Although you had a non-delegable duty to understand and abide by the provisions of the Act, we are not moving forward with this matter based on the specific facts of this case. These include the fact that you timely reported the gift.

This letter serves as a written warning. The information in this matter will be retained and may be considered should an enforcement action become necessary based on future conduct or newly discovered information. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act in the future will result in monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 for each violation.

The Commission publishes forms and manuals to facilitate compliance with the provisions of the Act and provides guidance regarding filing obligations over the telephone and through written advice. Please call the Commission's Technical Assistance Division at 1-866-275-3772 or visit our website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gary Winuk', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gary Winuk, Chief  
Enforcement Division